

[CONFIDENTIAL.]

SELECTIONS
FROM THE
VERNACULAR NEWSPAPERS
PUBLISHED IN THE PANJAB,
NORTH-WESTERN PROVINCES,
ODDH, CENTRAL INDIA, AND RAJPUTANA.
Received up to 27th August, 1881.

POLITICAL.

The *Anjuman-i-Panjāb* of the 23rd August states that news has been received from Kandahar to the effect that Aiyub Khan's different regiments of troops are not on good terms with each other, that his condition is not good at present, that he will not be able to march on Kabul for some time to come, &c. We do not believe this news, nor did we give credence to that which was formerly received about his alleged weakness when he was at Herat. It was said that the tribes of Herat were harassing him, that he would soon fly in the direction of Turkestan, and so forth. But the events have showed that all this news was utterly false. When he is distributing pay among his troops and is enlisting new troops, how can we consider his condition to be bad? In our opinion he is now busily engaged in intriguing with the Amir's sirdars, and as soon as his intrigues are completed he will at once advance towards Kabul. When we were unable to derive any benefit from the late war, which involved immense losses

Afghan affairs.

Circulation,
425 copies.

of men, animals, and money, what good can we expect to derive from spending any more money on Afghanistan? The Afghans are a selfish and ungrateful people. We rendered great aid to Sher Ali, and we know what return he made for our favours. He welcomed a Russian mission in his capital, but refused to guarantee the protection of our envoy. Likewise we should expect nothing from Abdul Rahman; we should render no more aid to him. If we are afraid that, if we do not interfere in Afghan affairs, the Russians will intrigue with the Afghans, why do we not enter into a treaty with the Russians instead of uselessly spending our money on the hopeless task of winning the friendship of the Afghans? If we had retained Kandahar, all danger of Russian intrigue would have been removed. We should quietly wait and see what is the result of the struggle between the Amir and Aiyub Khan. Whoever is victorious in the end we should recognise as Amir. (The *Nasim-i-Agra* of the 15th August, received on the 22nd idem, is also of opinion that no more aid should be given to the Amir.)

Circulation,
140 copies.

The *Akhbār-i-Ālam* (Meerut) of the 20th August says that when the Government intended to appoint Abdul Rahman Khan Amir of Kabul, it at once struck us that as he did not command the sympathy of the people, and for other reasons, he should not be able to maintain his authority, and we protested against his appointment: but in vain. We were convinced that Aiyub Khan would not remain quiet. He has already seized Kandahar and a large booty has fallen in his hands. We urged the reinstatement of Yakub Khan, but our proposal did not meet with favour at the time. We have heard that the question of his release is now under the consideration of the Government of India. Abdul Rahman Khan has proved utterly worthless. We have given him no less than 39 lakhs of rupees, but he does not appear to have spent even a fraction of this sum on his army. True, Aiyub Khan is a very

able man, but still, had good arrangements been made by the Amir to resist his attack on Kandahar, Kandahar would never have fallen. In our opinion the Government should now at once release Yakub Khan and send him back to Kabul. His advent in Kabul would soon restore peace and order in Afghanistan, and his release would also tend to effect a reconciliation between Aiyub Khan and the Government. At all events the Government should render no more aid to the Amir Abdul Rahman Khan on the following grounds, but leave him to shift for himself: (1) Parliament itself is opposed to rendering any more aid to the Amir. (2) When the Amir has not made a proper use of the 39 lakhs of rupees which we have already given him, what guarantee is there that if we gave him more money he would make a proper use of it? (3) The late Kabul war involved an expenditure of 30 millions sterling, but still no material benefit has been derived from the war. What benefit can we expect from again interfering in Afghan affairs? (4) The whole Indian press is unanimous in its opinion that we should give no more help to the Amir. If Aiyub Khan interferes with our posts, we should no doubt chastise him; or if the Government desires to take permanent possession of Afghanistan, it may despatch an army to occupy the country.

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION.

The *Koh-i-Nur* of the 20th August, referring to para. 189 of the Panjáb Administration Report for 1879-80, about the health of the prisoners in 1879, remarks that our good Lieutenant-Governor had really no connection with the heavy mortality. The reduction in the scale of diet, which was the real cause of the heavy mortality, had been made under orders from the Government of India. But it is to be regretted that Sir Robert Egerton has made himself responsible with the Government of India for the heavy mortality by stating in the paragraph

Circulation,
490 copies.

above referred to that the sickness was entirely due to causes beyond control. It would appear from his attempt to conceal the true cause of the mortality that he himself approved of the fatal scheme of a reduction in the scale of diet. True the public health in the year under review was not good, but the same causes that led to increased sickness in the jails led to it among the free population. The people had to labour harder than usual to earn a livelihood and still could not get a sufficient quantity of food in consequence of dearth. We do not mean to say that such comforts should be provided for the prisoners that the very object of incarceration should be defeated, but we ought to do what is necessary to keep them in health. A prisoner requires more food than a free person because the former has to labour harder than the latter and because he is necessarily exposed to great anxiety in the jail. The mortality in the jails in Bengal and Bombay was also very heavy in consequence of the reduced scale of food. If it is the object of the Government to kill prisoners, it should put them to death at once. It is very cruel to starve them to death by slow torture. The prisoner is not given a full meal, and very hard labour is exacted from him. If he is unable to perform his full task, he is severely beaten and his food is still further reduced. One can hardly survive such severe treatment. The public will be surprised at the morality of the Panjáb Government when it considers the reason assigned for the reduction in the scale of diet. It is stated in para. 188 of the same report that had the old scale of diet been in force in 1879, the prisoners would have been in a better position as regards scale of diet than the free population, and this would have been quite unjustifiable. When the Government of India introduced the new scale, there was no scarcity in the Panjáb. Perhaps the Government knew by divine inspiration that there would be a scarcity in the province in the future, and therefore reduced the scale of diet for the prisoners in order that they might not be better off than the free population. Lord Lytton's

Government will be always remembered for its evil measures. The destruction of some thousands of prisoners in consequence of his reduced scale of food is nothing compared with his other cruel schemes. But it is to be regretted that our Sir Robert has unnecessarily made himself liable to public censure by making the statements above referred to in his report. It is contended that there is generally an improvement in the health of the prisoners in the jail, because prisoners have been found to weigh more on the day of their release than they did on the day of their admission into the jail. But it should be observed that, in the first place, all prisoners do not increase in weight: some are found to weigh less at the time of their release than they did at the time of their admission into the jail. Secondly, when a convict is under trial, he necessarily loses weight from mental anxiety. But again, as the time of his release approaches, the hope of regaining his liberty tends to restore his full weight. The orders of the Government about the education of prisoners are not fully carried out by the superintendents. Not even 15 per cent of the prisoners attend the jail schools. The superintendents only endeavour to get as much work out of the prisoners as possible and utterly disregard their education.

The *Sâhas* (a weekly paper published in Bengali at Allahabad) of the 20th August states that it is said that Englishmen are a liberal-minded people, that they do not despise other nations and are always anxious to do good to others, and a hundred other things are said in their favour. Moreover, it is said that it is only a few wretched native editors who publish long articles against them in order to stir up the feelings of half-educated youths against them. But what is really the case? The Bengali papers have frequently shown that European officers are very proud and look down upon the natives with contempt, and that

W Dethoit, Esq., C.S.,
and Pandit Ajudhia Nath,
a Pleader of the Allahabad
High Court.

Circulation,
275 copies.

Englishmen have lately quite forgotten what it is to do good to others. Formerly only the district officers were sometimes guilty of misconduct, but we regret to say that the evil has now gradually spread to higher officers. It is not the habit of the Bengalis to find fault with the rulers; but at the same time we are not accustomed to indulge in false flattery and cannot hide the truth, and here we give one account of an unprecedented incident that lately took place. When Mr. Robert Spankie, Puisne Judge of the Allahabad High Court, retired from the public service, Mr. Duthoit, the District and Sessions Judge of Sháhjahánpur, was appointed to officiate in his place. As it was at first generally believed that he would be confirmed in the post, some respectable natives called upon him at his house to see him; but they were all disappointed. He told them that he had no time to see them. One day Pandit Ajudhia Nath, a well-known Pleader of the High Court, went to see Mr. Harrison, Principal of the Muir Central College. When he had seen Mr. Harrison and taken leave of him, he resolved to see Mr. Duthoit, who lived in the same house and who had seen him talking with Mr. Harrison, because he thought that if he did not see him, he might imagine that he was slighted by him. Accordingly the Pandit sent word to Mr. Duthoit. On this Mr. Duthoit came out of his room and told the Pandit that he did not see *natives*. The Pandit was much aggrieved at the insult offered to him and his countrymen by Mr. Duthoit and boldly asked him what was the harm in seeing natives. Moreover, on his return home, he sent him a letter. In the letter he said that hitherto he had only heard from others that some European officers were very proud and treated the natives with contempt, but that he was now convinced of the truth of this from his own experience and so forth. Mr. Duthoit was not ashamed of his misconduct. The letter only served to irritate him, and he resolved to endeavour to expell the Pandit from the High Court. But fortunately the British Government has not given absolute power to any officer. When Mr. Duthoit saw that the expulsion

of the Pandit was out of the question, he asked him to apologise to him and to withdraw the letter. The Pandit, like a man, firmly refused to apologise and to withdraw the letter, and also told him that he would report his misconduct to the Government of India. Bravo ! bravo ! We are very glad to see such boldness in the natives of these provinces. We shall boldly endeavour to bring this untoward incident not only to the notice of the public in this country, but also to that of Englishmen at home. The Government and the public should consider how far a man who bears such hatred towards the natives is suited for the post of a High Court Judge and how far he can dispense even-handed justice to them. When the well-known Mr. Brodhurst, who has been permanently appointed by Her Majesty to the vacant post in the High Court, takes charge and displaces Mr. Duthoit, our grief will be allayed. We are obliged to state with deep regret that Mr. Duthoit is a disgrace to the British nation.

The *Bhārat Bandhu* of the 19th August (received on the 24th idem), referring to the case of Vrijeshji Maharaj of Jamnagar, expresses sympathy with the Vaishnavas in their grief at his imprisonment, and remarks that the petition which they submitted to the Governor of Bombay, praying for his release, has been rejected. They have appealed to the Viceroy and are anxiously awaiting his orders. It is difficult to conceive that a man in the Vrijeshji's position should have committed such an offence. If he is guilty, he deserves no sympathy. If a man in his position stoops to perpetrate such an offence, he should be more severely punished than an ordinary person. If Vrijeshji is a victim of conspiracy, he has undoubtedly been very unjustly dealt with by our Courts. In our opinion, as the law has been vindicated, the Government of India should now release him from prison. If it does this, it will earn the gratitude of the whole Vaishnav community.

Circulation,
147 copies.

LOCAL AND MISCELLANEOUS.

Circulation,
110 copies.

The Aligarh correspondent of the *Rohilkhand Akhbar* of

The death of S. M. Moens, Esq., C.S., the late District and Sessions Judge of Aligarh.

the 20th August, referring to the death of Mr. S. M. Moens, the late District Judge of Aligarh, which took

place on the 26th July last, remarks that different rumours are prevalent at Aligarh about his death. One of the rumours implicates Khwaja Muhammad Ismail, Pleader. It is said that one person filed a petition in Mr. Moens' Court asking permission to prosecute the pleader for perjury, and the Judge was disposed to grant permission as he was aware that Muhammad Ismail's conduct was not good, that he had already been twice made over to the Magistrate by Civil Courts on the charge of perjury, but had been acquitted, and that his brother, Muhammad Hasan, had been sentenced to three years' imprisonment for perjury. In the meantime Mr. Moens became sick, and it is said that Muhammad Ismail adopted some measures which prevented his recovery.

One Qazi Saiyid Muhammad Hasan of Lucknow has published a sheet of paper containing the

Cow-killing.

opinion of some Muhammadan Ulmas

of Lucknow in regard to cow-slaughter, and showing that the cow is a very sacred animal according to the Hindu religion. In replying to questions put to them by the Qazi the Ulmas said that the Muhammadan religion permitted the killing of kine, but did not enjoin it, that to abstain from killing kine was no sin, and that the sacrifice of a camel was better than that of a cow. As the Muhammadan religion does not enjoin the killing of kine, the Qazi exhorts his co-religionists to refrain from it in deference to the feelings of their Hindu brethren who revere kine. The *Punjabi Akhbar*, which is edited by a Musalman, publishes the Qazi's paper in its issue of the 24th August and expresses its concurrence with him in thinking that the Musalmans should give up the practice of killing kine. The *Oudh Akhbar* of the 27th August

expresses great satisfaction at the opinion expressed by the Ulmas of Lucknow in regard to the slaughter of kine by Musalmans, and remarks that oxen and kine should be protected not only because they are held in great respect by the Hindus, but also because they are so very useful for agricultural purposes.

LIST OF PAPERS EXAMINED.

NO.	NAME.	LOCALITY.	LANGUAGE.	MONTHLY, WEEKLY, OR OTHERWISE.	NAME OF PUBLISHER.	DATE OF PAPER.	DATE OF RECEIPT.	CIRCULATION.
						1881.	1881.	
1	<i>Aftab-i-Hind</i>	... Jalandhar, Urdu	...	Weekly	Barkat Ali	August 20th	August 21st	...
2	<i>Aftab-i-Panjab</i>	... Lahore	... Ditto	Bi-weekly	Divan Buta Singh,	" 19th & 22nd	" 21st & 24th	...
3	<i>Agra Akhbar</i>	... Agra	... Ditto	Weekly	Khawaja Yusuf Ali,	" 21st	" 25th	225 copies.
4	<i>Ahsan-al-Akhbar</i>	... Moradabad	... Ditto	Ditto	Ali Husein Khan	" 18th	" 21st, 21st &	115 "
5	<i>Ahsan-i-Sikandari</i>	... Ditto	... Ditto	Ditto	Ahmad Bakhsh	" 10th, 17th & 24th.	" 27th respectively.	60 "
6	<i>Ain-al-Akhbar</i>	... Ditto	... Ditto	Ditto	Dilawar Ali	" 21st	" 24th	64 "
7	<i>Akhbar-i-Alam</i>	... Meerut	... Ditto	Ditto	Kamta Prasad	" 20th	" 22nd	140 "
8	<i>Akhbar-i-Am</i>	... Lahore	... Ditto	Bi-weekly	Mukund Ram	" 20th & 24th	" 23rd & 27th	1,700 "
9	<i>Akhbar-i-Tamannadi,</i>	Lucknow,	Ditto	Weekly	Puran Chand	" 24th	" 27th	125 "
10	<i>Almal-al-Akhbar</i>	Delhi	Ditto	Ditto	Fakhr-al-din	" 23rd	" 26th	80 "
11	<i>Aligarh Institute Gazette.</i>	Aligarh	Urdu-Eng- Hib.	Bi-weekly	Golab Rai	" 20th & 23rd	" 22nd & 25th	273 copies (in- cluding 68 co- pies taken by Govt.)
12	<i>Anjuman-i-Hind</i>	Lucknow	Urdu	Weekly	Chandan Lal	" 13th & 20th	" 25th	135 copies.
13	<i>Anjuman-i-Panjab</i>	Lahore	Urdu-Eng- Hib.	Ditto	Mir Nisar Ali	" 23rd	" 27th	425 copies (in- cluding 200 copies taken by Govt.)
14	<i>Ashraf-al-Akhbar</i>	Delhi	Urdu	Tri-monthly	Mirza Khan	" 21st	" 23rd	100 copies.

15	Bhadrat Bandhu	Aligarh	Hindi	Weekly	Tota Ram	19th	24th	147	"
16	Dabdaba-i-Qaisari	Bareilly	Urdu	Ditto	Thakur Prasad	20th	"	225	"
17	Dabdaba-i-Sikandri	Rampur	Ditto	Ditto	Muhammad Husain	22nd	"	410	"
18	Deki Pench	Lahore	Ditto	Ditto	Husain Ali	20th	"	225	"
19	Guldasta-i-Benares	Benares	Ditto	Ditto	Bida Husain	22nd	"	115	"
20	Gurmukhi Akhbar	Lahore	Gurmukhi	Ditto	Gurmukh Singh	10th & 17th	23rd	300	"
21	Gwalior Gazette	Gwalior	Hindi-Urdu	Ditto	"	21st	27th	"	"
22	Haiyat-i-Javidani	Agra	Urdu	Tri-monthly	Jhabbe Lal	20th	23rd	30	"
23	Jaspur Gazette	Jaipur	Hindi	Bi-weekly	Mahabir Prasad	24th	26th	188	"
24	Karnamah	Lucknow	Urdu	Weekly	Muhammad Yaqub	22nd	24th	250	"
25	Kashi Patrika	Benares	Hindi-Urdu	Ditto	Baleshwar Prasad	19th	22nd	725 copies (including 370 copies taken by Govt.)	"
26	Khair Khush-i-Aalam	Delhi	Urdu	Ditto	Mir Hasan	24th	27th & 27th respectively.	90 copies.	"
27	Koh-i-Nar	Lahore	Ditto	Bi-weekly	Jawwad Ali	20th & 24th	"	490 copies (including 86 copies taken by Govt.)	"
28	Lark-i-Mahfuz	Moradabad	Ditto	Weekly	Mihdi Hussain Khan	12th	22nd	80 copies.	"
29	Lawrence Gazette	Meerut	Ditto	Ditto	Salyid Jamil-al-din	23rd	26th	305	"
30	Lytton Gazette	Delhi	Ditto	Bi-monthly	Bulaqi Das	24th	"	150	"
31	Mashir-i-Qaisar	Lucknow	Ditto	Weekly	Ghulam Muhammad	23rd	25th	200	"
32	Mubir-i-Nawaz	Bijnor	Ditto	Ditto	Muhib-ul-lah	22nd	26th	90	"
33	Mitra Vids	Lahore	Hindi	Ditto	Mukund Ram	"	25th	250	"
34	Mulla-i-Nar	Cawnpore	Urdu	Ditto	Nabi Baksh	24th	27th	32	"
35	Naigar-i-Azam	Moradabad	Ditto	Ditto	Amjid Ali	22nd	25th	120	"
36	Najmal Akhbar	Etawah	Ditto	Ditto	Ruh-Allah Khan	24th	"	200	"
37	Nasim-i-Agra	Agra	Ditto	Ditto	Jamna Das	15th & 23rd	22nd & 27th respectively.	325	"
38	Nasim-i-Hind	Fatehpur	Ditto	Ditto	Ambica Prasad	23rd	27th	106	"

List of papers examined—(concluded).

Sl. No.	NAME.	LOCALITY.	LANGUAGE.	MONTHLY, WEEKLY, OR OTHERWISE.	NAME OF PUBLISHER.	DATE OF PAPER.	DATE OF RECEIPT.	CIRCULATION.
39	Nur Afkân	Ludhiana,	Urdu	Weekly	Rev. E. M. Wherry,	1881. August 26th	1881. August 27th	700 copies.
40	Nur-al-Anwar	Cawnpore,	Ditto	Ditto	Muhammad Yaqub,	" 27th	" " 27th	337 "
41	Oudh Akhbar	Lucknow,	Ditto	Daily	Sheo Prasad	" 22nd to 27th	" 22nd to 27th respectively.	715 copies (including 90 copies taken by Govt.)
42	Oudh Punch	Ditto	Ditto	Weekly	Sajid Husain	23rd	27th	600 copies.
43	Panjab-i-Akbar	Lahore	Ditto	Bi-weekly	Muhammad Asim,	" 20th & 24th	" 23rd & 27th	300 "
44	Panjab Punch	Ditto	Ditto	Weekly	Fateh-al-din	" 23rd	" 27th	150 "
45	Patiala Akhbar	Patiala	Ditto	Ditto	Rikhi Kesh	" 22nd	" 26th	300 "
46	Prince of Wales Gazette.	Meerut	Ditto	Ditto	Rae Ganeshi Lal	" 4th & 20th	" 25th	50 "
47	Rafiq-i-Am	Shalkot	Ditto	Ditto	Divan Chand	21st	24th	600 "
48	Rahbar-i-Hind	Lahore	Ditto	Bi-weekly	Nadir Ali Shah	" 22nd & 25th	" 23rd & 27th	517 "
49	Rohilband Akhbar	Moradabad	Ditto	Weekly	Bishan Sarup	20th	25th	110 "
50	Saba Kurnadala	Kapurthala	Ditto	Ditto	Sharf-al-din	" "	" 26th	...
51	Sadiq-ul-Akbar	Bhawalpur	Ditto	Ditto	Abdul Quds	25th	27th	455 "
52	Sahas	Allahabad,	Bengali	Ditto	Kall Krishan Chakrabarti.	" 20th	" 21st	275 "
53	Sajjan Keri Sahas	Udaipur	Hindi	Ditto	Banshi Dhar	" 23rd	" 26th	225 "

54	Shola-i-Tur	..	Cawnpore,	Urdu	...	Ditto	..	Haidar Ali	...	"	"	...	325	"
55	Tutiyai-Hind	...	Meerut	Ditto	...	Ditto	...	Wilayat Ali	...	"	25th
56	Victoria Paper	...	Sialkot	Ditto	...	Bi-weekly	...	Gyan Chand	...	"	24th	...	900	"
57	Vritt Dhara	...	Dhar	Marathi	...	Weekly	...	Hari Bhaskar	...	"	27th	...	125	"

ALLAHABAD:

The 1st September, 1881. }

PRIYÁ DKS, M.A.,

Govt. Reporter on the Vernacular Press of Upper India.

PRINTED AT THE N.-W. P. AND OUDH GOVERNMENT PRESS, ALLAHABAD.

